

Central Bucks School District
School Board Briefs
July 26, 2022

At the July 26, 2022 School Board Meeting, the Central Bucks Board of School Directors:

Shared that there are no Executive Sessions to announce.

Approved the minutes of the June 14, 2022 School Board Meeting

Heard Public Comment:

Barbara Wachter of Doylestown Borough ceded her speaking time to Stephen Albert.

Stephen Albert of Doylestown Borough spoke about blocking teachers from attending a conference, denying a field trip to Washington DC, discontinuing a relationship with CB Cares Educational Foundation, Trump, Biden, and Pride flags in classrooms, Pride arm bands, free speech and expression, the book policy, Mr. Burgess, and a student who was not allowed to return into her school building after protesting outside.

Joanna Doyle of Chalfont Borough read aloud a statement from the Pennsylvania School Librarians Association.

Linda Muelbronner of New Britain Township ceded her speaking time to Lela Casey.

Lela Casey of Doylestown spoke about the book policy and read aloud a statement from the National Coalition Against Censorship.

Jessica Pollner of Doylestown Borough ceded her speaking time to Rachel Fitzpatrick.

Rachel Fitzpatrick of PFLAG Bucks County spoke about giving more books to libraries, banning books, fears, voting, freedom to learn, and asked the Board to vote against Policy 109.2.

Marie A. Stevens of Doylestown Borough ceded her speaking time to Katherine Semisch.

Katherine Semisch of Doylestown Borough spoke about wanting libraries full of good books, the transformative power of a strong and difficult book, age-appropriate books, and the library policy.

Ava Suhanec of Doylestown Borough ceded her speaking time to Lindsey Freeman.

Lindsey Freeman of Buckingham Township asked the Board to vote against Policy 109.2, spoke about her experience in CB schools, her sister's experience in CB schools, and books in school libraries.

Kathleen Davis of New Britain Township ceded her speaking time to Anu Viswanathan.

Anu Viswanathan, municipality not given, spoke about Policy 109.2, agenda item number 14C: hiring a Philadelphia PR firm, and a February 2022 presentation given by Melissa Burger about library collections.

Katrina Filiatrault of New Britain Township read aloud a statement from the Education Law Center.

Annie Hall of Doylestown Township ceded her speaking time to Christine Kehan.

Christine Kehan of Warrington spoke about Policy 109.2, her experience as a school librarian, selecting books for her school library, book banning, and library policy.

Susan Poltken of Plumstead Township spoke about being a retired professional librarian, the book policy, and banned books.

Anne Ferguson of Doylestown Township spoke about being a retired teacher, a letter sent out about Pride flags, a committee for the book policy, banning books, censorship, and removing classroom library books.

Dana Roberts of Doylestown Borough spoke about the wide variety of literature she was exposed to in CB schools and read aloud a statement from the NAACP of Bucks County.

Anu Hosangadi of Warwick Township spoke about the email sent by Superintendent Lucabaugh and President Hunter, policy, and asked if there are lists of challenged and replacement books.

Lorraine Sciuto-Ballasy of Warwick spoke about honesty and transparency with the new Board, the new book review process policy, and our students' mental health.

Jodi Schwartz of Warrington Township spoke about Policy 109.2 and the \$180,000.00 per year PR contract to handle damage control.

Pam Masciotro of Warrington Township spoke about last year's masks, this year's books, the denial of books by conservative authors by Melissa Burger, the PR firm contract, and thanked six school board members.

Rose Busick of Warrington spoke about books that are inappropriate for school libraries and minors being exposed to sexually explicit content.

Vonna DeArmond of Plumstead spoke about her children being masked last year, graphic sexual content in books, some people being afraid to speak at school board meetings, and respect going both ways.

Robbin Danko of Springtown spoke about being a school librarian and allowing trained librarians to do what they do well.

Tracey Bowen of Chalfont spoke about the financial ramifications of Policy 109.2, the 7-step process to formally challenge library materials, to being opposed to Policy 109.2, and about hiring a PR firm.

Doreen Stratton of Doylestown Borough spoke about “The1619 Project”, Andrew Burgess, and about speaking to Andrew Burgess’s classes regarding the Underground Railroad.

Sean Durkin of Warwick spoke about Policy 109.2, the CB Vision Statement, the CB Mission Statement, CB Student Learning Goals, and spending \$180,000.00 to rebuild goodwill. Mr. Durkin spoke about kids reading books, knowledge being power, and asked the Board to vote against Policy 109.2.

Sarah Zhang of Warwick spoke about her experience at CB schools, participating in Reading Olympics, having to protest Policy 109.2, promoting ignorance over diversity, and asked the Board to vote against Policy 109.2.

Alexandra Coffey of Chalfont spoke about being privileged to have been surrounded by books, bullying on school grounds, books promoting healing, and children being educated.

Leo Burchell of Jamison spoke about the students being the ones affected by this policy, the \$180,000.00 for the PR contract being better spent on helping students, the library policy, a small minority of parents deciding what 18,000 students read in school libraries and asked the Board to vote against Policy 109.2.

Reviewed School Board Reports:

Curriculum Committee

Finance Committee

Operations Committee

Policy Committee

Bucks County Intermediate Unit

Middle Bucks Institute of Technology

Approved Business Office Items:

Treasurer’s Report and Summary of Fund Disbursements

Accounts Payable Check Disbursements in the amount of \$9,583,237.49

Designated Depository Bank Listing for the 2022-2023 School Year

Agreement with Portnoff Law Associates, LTD for collection of delinquent real estate taxes

Resolution approving the appointment of solicitor, interest assessment, and attorney fees and collection fees added to the amount collected as part of unpaid real estate taxes for delinquent accounts

Resolution directing Bucks County Tax Claim Bureau not to collect delinquent real estate taxes on behalf of the Central Bucks School District

Year-End Budget Transfers

Approved FEMO Department Item:

Low bid with Hollenbach Construction for canopy repairs at Gayman Elementary School in the amount of \$85,900.00

Approved Special Education Department Items:

IEP Waiver Agreement.I

IEP Waiver Agreement.II

FAPE Waiver Agreement.I. in the amount of \$133,840.00

FAPE Waiver Agreement.II in the amount of \$54,330.00

Devereux CIDDS 2022 ESY Agreement in the amount of \$16,455.00

Devereux CARES 2022 ESY Agreement in the amount of \$15,090.00

K/S Consultants, Inc. Agreement for the 2022-2023 School Year in the amount of \$130,000.00

MTSS Agreement with BCIU for the 2022-2023 School Year in the amount of \$8,000.00

Professional Services Agreement with Rick Fertig for the 2022-2023 School Year in the amount of \$20,000.00

Lakeside Agreement for the 2022-2023 School Year

2022-2025 Special Education Plan

Approved Student Services Item:

High School Tuition Student

Approved Curriculum Items:

Music Technology Course of Study

AP Environmental Science Textbooks in the amount of \$42,724.50

Wilson Language Training Professional Learning Service Agreement in the amount of \$41,749.00

K-6 Physical Education Course of Study

Approved Policy Items:

Removed from Table and Approved Policy 109

Removed from Table and Approved Policy 109.2

Removed from Table and Approved Policy 119

Removed from Table and Approved Policy 218

Moved to Table for First Read Policy 109.1

Approved Student Field Trips:

CB West Music Dept. to Orlando, FL Feb. 17-20, 2023

CB East Boys Basketball to Tempe, AZ Dec. 26-31, 2022

Unami Freshmen Class to NYC Nov. 9, 2022

CB East Football to Chambersburg, PA Aug. 27-28, 2022

CB West Cheerleaders to Beach Lake, PA Aug. 16-19, 2022

CB East Cheerleaders to Brach Lake, PA Aug. 16-19, 2022

CB East Football to East Stroudsburg, PA July 14-16, 2022

Foreign Exchange Student at CB South for the 2022-2023 School Year

Approved Other Action Items:

David Cell as School Safety & Security Coordinator

Middle School Volleyball as a PIAA-Sanctioned Sport in the Central Bucks School District

Public Relations Contract with Devine and Partners in the amount of \$15,000.00 per month from July 2022 to June 2023

Approved Personnel Items:

Retirements, Resignations, and Terminations

Leaves of Absence

Appointments

Assignment, Classification, and Status Changes

Summer Staff Lists

2022-2023 Substitute and Auxiliary Activity Pay Rates

Approved Staff Conferences and Workshops in the amount of \$11,860.00

Reviewed Reports and Information Items:

Sabbaticals Report

Student Activity Reports

Shared New Business/Board Comments:

Director Smith spoke about her disappointment that the book policy passed but is heartened by the turnout at the press conference and at tonight's meeting.

Director Mahmud spoke about the majority board and Superintendent Lucabaugh making decisions and isolating three board members. Director Mahmud spoke about the policy voted upon tonight.